

Message Text

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ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-10

RSC-01 SPC-03 AID-20 NSC-10 CIEP-02 TRSE-00 SS-20

STR-08 OMB-01 CEA-02 L-03 H-03 PA-04 PRS-01 USIE-00

SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 COME-00

SCEM-02 SCI-06 INT-08 DRC-01 /203 W

----- 080444

O 221730Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9474

INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

USINT ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

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AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY VIENNA
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
USMISSION OECD PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRUSSELS 7455

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ENRG, EF, BE
SUBJECT: OPEC PRICE INCREASE

REF: (A) GENEVA 6742 (BE) STATE 249382

1. IN CALL THIS AFTERNOON ON BELGIAN MINFORAFFAIRS DIRECTOR MID-EAST AFFAIRS DEPASSE, CHARGE CARRIED OUT INSTRUCTIONS CONTAINED REF (B). DEPASSE AGREED WITH OUR VIEW OF SERIOUSNESS OF RUMOURED OPEC ACTION. WHILE HE WAS "NOT SANQUINE" THAT ACTION AT THIS LATE DATE WOULD PROVE VERY USEFUL, HE SAID HE WOULD IMMEDIATELY ATTEMPT TO PASS GOB CONCERN TO AT LEAST SAUDI ARABIAN AND IRANIAN GOVERNMENTS. DEPASSE SUBSEQUENTLY TELEPHONED CHARGE TO INFORM US THAT BELGIAN PRIME MINISTER LEBURTON, AFTER BEING INFORMED OF OUR DEMARCHE, HAS DECIDED TO SEND PERSONAL MESSAGE DIRECTLY TO IRANIAN PRIME MINISTER. LEBURTON'S MESSAGE WILL URGE MODERATION AND PREDICT DIRE CONSEQUENCES FOR BOTH DEVELOPING AND INDUSTRIAL COUNTRIES IF EXAGGERATED INCREASE IN PETROLEUM PRICES SHOULD BE DECIDED UPON.

2. IN OUR CONVERSATION, DEPASSE COMMENTED THAT OUR NEWS ABOUT POSSIBLE OPEC ACTION WAS UNEXPECTED AS PREVIOUS INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO GOB INDICATED THAT TEHRAN PRICE INCREASES LIKELY TO BE "MODERATE". HE ADDED THAT FRENCH EMBASSY HAD INFORMED HIM EVENING DECEMBER 21 THAT GOF HAD RECENTLY APPROACHED OPEC GOVERNMENTS TO ENCOURAGE THEM TO ACT REASONABLY AT TEHRAN CONFERENCE. BOOCHEVER

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Message Attributes

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